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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/599,012

09/18/2006

Guoshun Deng

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EXAMINER

SHARMA, SUJATHA R

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2618

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

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PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/599,012	<b>Applicant(s)</b> DENG ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b> SUJATHA SHARMA	<b>Art Unit</b> 2618	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --**

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 September 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)            | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)           |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)   | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____                                      |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>9/18/06, 5/20/08, 4/23/09</u> .                               | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                          |

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***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

1. Claims 1-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Riggs [US 2003/0007649] in view of Rast [US 2003/0076968].

Regarding claim 1, Riggs discloses a remote control interface that is configured to manage, control and operate a plurality of audio and/or video components. Riggs further discloses a system wherein

- said controller (see Fig. 3, element 142) is a radio frequency (RF) controller, and the first transmitter is a RF transmitter (See Fig. 3, element 154); also see paragraphs 45,95
- said first receiver of said data source is a RF receiver, wherein said controller sends a RF control signal to the data source, said first RF receiver in the data source receives the RF control signal and sends the signal playing device. See paragraph 45 where the after market stereo receiver receives the signal and sends it to the speaker for outputting the signal through the speakers.

However he does not specifically disclose a method where the first RF receiver in the data source receives the RF control signal and sends the signal to the first micro-controller for processing, and said second transmitter transmits data signals and/or the control signal to said playing device under the control of said first micro-controller.

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Rast, in the same field of endeavor, teaches a method where the first RF receiver in the data source receives the RF control signal and sends the signal to the first micro-controller for processing, and said second transmitter transmits data signals and/or the control signal to said playing device under the control of said first micro-controller. See Fig. 1 and paragraph 75

Therefore it would have been to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include the micro-controller of Rast's invention in Riggs device for the proper operation and control of the audio device remotely.

Regarding claim 2, Riggs discloses a system wherein said playing device further comprises at least a RF receiver(see 104 in fig. 3) adaptive to receive the RF control signal transmitted from the first RF transmitter of the controller 9(see 142 in Fig. 3) . See also paragraphs 45, 95

Regarding claim 3, Riggs discloses a system wherein the signal transmissions between said data source and the playing device are carried out in a RF manner. See paragraph 95.

Regarding claim 4, Rast discloses a system wherein the second transmitter(18 in fig. 1) of said data source is a RF transmitter. See paragraphs 73,74,83

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Regarding claim 5, Riggs discloses a system wherein said data source is combined with said playing device, and the signals from the transmitter of the data source are cable signals. See paragraph 37

Regarding claim 6, Rast discloses a system wherein said data source uses a potable storage medium to store the data signals. See paragraph 77.

Regarding claim 7, Rast discloses a system wherein said controller further comprises a key panel, a signal generator, and an encoder, and wherein said key panel receives external control instructions, said signal generator generates control signals corresponding to the external control instructions, and said encoder encodes and sends the control signals to the first transmitter. See paragraphs 66,67,69.

Regarding claim 8, Riggs discloses a system wherein said controller is provided on the steer wheel. See paragraph 35.

Regarding claims 9,10 Riggs discloses an audio/video system comprising a controller (142 in fig. 3), a data source and a playing device (106 in fig 3 and paragraph 5), wherein the controller

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controls the data source and/or playing device through a radio frequency (RF) transmission ( see paragraph 45,95)

However, he does not disclose a method wherein the said data source transmits data signals and/or control signals to the playing device through a RF transmission.

Rast, in the same field of endeavor, teaches a method using a RF transceiver in the sound system which receives control signals from the Steering wheel and transmits the information to the playing device . SEE Fig. 1 and paragraphs 73,74,83.

Therefore it would have been to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide the above teaching of Rast to Riggs for the proper operation and control of the audio device remotely.

Regarding claims 11-13, Rast discloses a system wherein said data source uses a potable storage medium to store the data signals. See paragraph 77.

Regarding claims 14-16, Rast discloses a system wherein said controller further comprises a key panel, a signal generator, and an encoder, and wherein said key panel receives external control instructions, said signal generator generates control signals corresponding to the external control instructions, and said encoder encodes and sends the control signals to the first transmitter. See paragraphs 66,67,69

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Regarding claims 17-19, Riggs discloses a system wherein said controller is provided on the steer wheel. See paragraph 35.

### ***Conclusion***

2. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Yoshitake [US 6,626,062]	Steering wheel
Kobayashi [us 6,225,578]	Switch device
Usami [JP 2005001624]	Steering switch
Mella [US 7,031,477]	Voice controlled system for providing digital audio content in an automobile
Hughes [us 2005/0089177]	Method, apparatus and program for intelligent volume control
Marlowe [US 2005/0239434]	Multimedia device integration system
Simon [US 2005/0281414]	Method and apparatus for control of personal digital media device using a vehicle audio system

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to SUJATHA SHARMA whose telephone number is (571)272-7886. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 7.30am - 4.00pm.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Matthew D. Anderson can be reached on 571-272-4177. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Sujatha Sharma/  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2618  
Sujatha Sharma  
May 21, 2009